

BirdLife International Tokyo

Annual Report 2022

(1 January – 31 December 2022)



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Message from the Representative Director

BirdLife International Tokyo (hereinafter BirdLife Tokyo) was founded 20 years ago, in April 2002 and since then, we have advanced conservation projects for birds and all nature. We are expanding our activities to include the conservation of forests and ocean, the improvement of livelihood for local people, the environmental education, and the prevention of global warming. Last year, our conservation activities were held in 8 countries in Asia, Africa and South America.

The year 2022 marked the centennial anniversary of BirdLife International, when BirdLife partner organisations from 119 countries gathered at our UK headquarters. We have had heated debates and shared ideas on how to protect the environment for the next 100 years.

Environmental issues are becoming more and more serious, and we do not have much time left. We at BirdLife will continue to do what we can to solve these issues.

K. Suzue

Keiko Suzue
Representative Director
BirdLife International Tokyo

BirdLife International celebrated its centennial anniversary.



The World Congress was held from September 13th to 15th to celebrate the centennial anniversary with participation of more than 700 people from 119 countries.

CONSERVATION PROJECTS

Conservation of Endangered Species

13% of the world's bird species is globally threatened

◆ The Crane Rice Production & Conservation of Sarus Crane – Cambodia

The Sarus Crane, the largest species of cranes, is listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. In southern Cambodia, where Sarus Cranes are known to fly in, we are working to protect their habitat by producing environmentally friendly 'crane rice', improving the livelihoods of farmers, and promoting an understanding of cranes.

In Cambodia, the habitat of the endangered Sarus Crane is limited, and the challenge is to stably conserve the current habitat. BirdLife Tokyo and NatureLife Cambodia, a partner in Cambodia, have been collaborating to produce environmentally friendly crane rice and conduct Sarus Crane conservation activities with support from the Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund (KNCF) since 2021. In 2022, we sought new farmers to help in the production of crane rice.



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Conservation of Migratory Birds

Conserving migratory birds' habitat along their flyway

◆ Supporting activities at the flyway sites in Hokkaido – Japan

To promote the conservation of migratory waterbirds, we are supporting the activities of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway network sites in Hokkaido. There are nine flyway sites in Hokkaido, which are very important as wintering grounds, stopover, and breeding grounds for migratory waterbirds.

In 2022, with support from Pacific Century Premium Developments, Lake Kutcharo and Kushiro Marsh were tie up to hold a training on capturing small wetland birds and eagles and to facilitate children's interaction. It also supported to improve facility for receiving more visitors at the Shunkunitai Wild Bird Sanctuary Nature Centre. This is expected to stimulate cooperation between flyway sites in Hokkaido and visitor centre will be activated as a basis for promoting the importance of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP).

◆ Conservation of migratory birds and their habitat – Japan

To promote the site management of important habitats for migratory waterbirds, "Flyway Site Network", we will continue to promote activities with experts, local governments, and relevant NGOs.

To conserve the migratory birds, it is essential to protect wintering grounds, stopover, and breeding grounds throughout their migratory pathways. Under the EAAFP, the international framework for migratory birds' conservation, of which Japan is a member, the site management and conservation of migratory birds is required at each flyway site. In 2022, in the contract with the Ministry of the Environment Japan, we held a national liaison meeting, workshops for flyway national monitoring and the Flyway National Conference of migratory birds to promote activities and strengthen the site network in Japan.



Forest and Wetland Conservation

2/3 of the worlds' birds are living in forests and wetlands

◆ **Development of wetland suffered from Great East Japan Earthquake** – Japan

Suzaki Wetland, located in Higashi Matsushima City, Miyagi Prefecture, suffered severe damage from the Earthquake and Tsunami in 2011. We aim to recover its nature damaged by the Tsunami and to develop the important habitat of migratory birds.

While Suzaki Wetland was damaged from the Tsunami, some migratory birds can still be found there since the Tsunami. In this year, we excavated to make an artificial tidal flat at Suzaki Wetland, with donation from Arte Salon Holdings, Inc. and KENJE GROUP. In the next year, we are planning other excavation and afforestation actions.



Suzaki Wetland © Higashi Matsushima City

◆ **Forest conservation utilizing technology – Indonesia**

We are implementing efficient forest patrol operations using technology in the tropical rainforest "Harapan" on Sumatra Island, Indonesia.

Large-scale deforestation is underway in the region due to the development of oil palm plantations. BirdLife Tokyo, in collaboration with Burung Indonesia (a partner in Indonesia), has launched the "Harapan Forest" project to protect approximately 100,000 ha of forest. In 2022, with the support of Fujitsu Limited, the project has implemented training to improve the biodiversity knowledge and survey techniques of local staff and information integration for managers. These activities were conducted to promote sustainable forest conservation using ICT technologies, such as the use of digital

technologies for forest patrolling and forest monitoring. Moreover, workshops have been organised for team managers, and incentive schemes have been developed to motivate local staff. This has facilitated the setting of clear goals of each team, and integration of information management for sustainable forest conservation was discussed and promoted.

◆ **Mitigation of global warming by utilizing forest resources – Indonesia**

In Harapan, Sumatra, Indonesia, we conducted a project to contribute to improve the local livelihood and reforestation, with Burung Indonesia, funded by the Toyota Environmental Activities Grant Program.

We implemented planting and production of rubber and honey to conserve forests in Harapan, where the illegal cutting down and burning of trees causes deforestation. In this project, training for contracted farmers improved the quality of rubber and the price of rubber and income of farmers was increased. On the other hand, we were not able to retrieve honey because of difficulty due to honeybees nesting from smoke pollution of forest fire. However, honey farmers improved their knowledge of honey tree management and honey harvesting through training. Moreover, we evaluated the project by PRISM.



Marine and Seabird Conservation

Steps towards seabird-safe fisheries

◆ **Waterbird monitoring to assess the impact of the oil spill – Mauritius**

To assess the medium and long-term effects of the oil spill caused by the WAKASHIO stranding accident off the coast of Mauritius in July 2020 on birds inhabiting coastal areas, we have conducted field surveys.

We, collaborating with the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation (a partner in Mauritius), started waterbird monitoring in 2020 with the aim of scientifically assessing the impact of the oil spill on birds and other ecosystems. In 2022, we conducted shorebirds monitoring, as well as capacity-building training to build a continuous survey system, with support from the MOL Mauritius International Fund for Natural Environment Recovery and Sustainability.

◆ **Reducing seabird bycatch in high seas tuna longline fishery – Japan**

Working towards seabird bycatch reduction in longline fishery, we held discussions with stakeholders and conducted awareness raising activities for the general public. We also participated in meetings of international tuna fishery management organisations and discussions on sustainable fishing.

One of the serious problems facing seabirds is fisheries bycatch (incidental catch in fishing gear). Many albatrosses and other species, including endangered species, are getting bycaught and drown in tuna longline fishery. In 2022, with support from David and Lucile Packard Foundation, we held discussions with the fishing industry, supply chain, government, and researchers, and gave a talk to stakeholders at a webinar. We also promoted public awareness through our social media campaign, Albatross Stories.

◆ **Gillnet seabird bycatch at-sea data collection and mitigation experiments**

– Japan

To understand the current status of seabird bycatch in gillnet fisheries in northwestern Hokkaido, we collaborated with fishers and a researcher from Hokkaido University to systematically collect data at sea. We also conducted an experiment on a potential bycatch mitigation measure in collaboration with the researcher and Tokyo Sea Life Park.

An estimated 400,000 seabirds die each year globally due to bycatch in gillnet fisheries. In 2022, with support from Tokyo Zoological Society, Inui Taisuke Memorial

Fund for Animal Science Research, Kingfisher Foundation, and David and Lucile Packard Foundation, we collaborated with fishers in the Town of Haboro area of Hokkaido and a researcher from Hokkaido University to systematically collect data to understand the current status of gillnet bycatch. With support from Japanese Association of Zoos and Aquariums, we also conducted an experiment to evaluate a potential bycatch mitigation measure at Tokyo Sea Life Park, where diving seabirds are kept.



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Improvement of Livelihoods

To protect the environment is to support human lives

◆ Supporting sustainable forest resource management and livelihood improvement – Indonesia

We are implementing activities to disseminate knowledge and skills for sustainable forest resources management and livelihood improvement in six villages in Gorontalo

In this region, deforestation, agricultural land expansion and unsustainable use of forest resources and agriculture have caused some environmental issues. This project was selected as a JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) Grassroots Technical Cooperation, which has started in November 2021. In 2022, capacity development trainings were conducted to 12 selected instructors from each village. This enabled the prospective instructors to provide training on forest conservation and sustainable agriculture to other farmers in their villages. More information on our activities can be found on the BirdLife Tokyo website



Local Recycling Programme

Working for challenges through conservation activities

◆ Plastic circular recycling programme – Japan

Our aim is to create trash bags recycled from collecting plastic wastes by local clean-up.

This year, we distributed recycled trash bags made last year to some of the clubs of “Group of bird mascot characters of J.League (Japan Professional Football League) clubs”. In next year, we plan to conduct some local clean-ups and create new recycled trash bags.



Yahoo! Internet Fund

We use Yahoo! Online Donation platform so that donors can choose a project for the conservation of a specific species or region in accordance with their personal interests.

There are project pages to support BirdLife Tokyo office as well as pages for Spoon-billed Sandpipers, Cape Penguins, Sarus Crane, wild birds in Brazil, and forests in Indonesia.

Charity Events

Providing opportunities to contribute to conservation activities.

◆ Hosting gala dinners

BirdLife Tokyo organizes two gala dinners each year, one in Tokyo and one in Osaka, in support of conservation. Companies and individuals from all over Japan donate to fundraise and support our activities through the charity auctions.

In 2022, the Osaka Spring Gala was held for the first time in three years and raised 15 million yen. At Tokyo Gala Dinner, guests enjoyed special dinner and entertainment to celebrate BirdLife's 100th anniversary and we raised 41 million yen.

The proceeds were used in the BirdLife International Japan Fund for Science and to support the Red List Programme.

◆ BirdLife International Japan Fund for Science

BirdLife Tokyo established a fund "BirdLife International Japan Fund for Science" in 2019 to commemorate the 15th anniversary of H.I.H. Princess Takamado serving as the Honorary President of BirdLife International.

The fund supports the scientific research and analysis for threatened bird species globally. The collected data is published as IUCN Red List. It is a basic data used by governments, international entities, and conservationists reflecting global conservation strategy and implementation. We allocated a portion of profits from Gala Dinner, also we have received some individual donations and supports from Chopard Japan Ltd.



Photo: The Honorary President, H.I.H. Princess Takamado

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Red Data Book

Broadening Circle of Support

Many individuals and organisations support us with friendly sympathy toward our philosophy.

◆ Arte Salon Holdings, Inc.

◆ KENJE GROUP

We received donations from Arte Salon Holdings, Inc., which runs over 300 beauty salons including overseas and KENJE GROUP, which runs over 120 beauty salons mainly in Kanto area. The donations are according to the number of colour treatments done throughout the year. They have a keen interest in nature conservation due to their concerns about using environmentally unfriendly chemicals for hair dye. The donations have been used for the project of wetland development in Higashi Matsushima City.

◆ FELISSIMO CORPORATION

We made face masks with bird motifs in collaboration with Felissimo, which sells a wide variety of lifestyle products via catalogue and internet to customers mainly in Japan. 100 JPY of the proceed from each sale of this product has been donated to nature and bird conservation activities of BirdLife.

◆ LGT Wealth Management Trust Inc.

We received the donation from LGT Wealth Management Trust Inc., which is the Japanese subsidiary of LGT, international private banking and asset management group managed by the Princely Family of Liechtenstein. The donation is towards BirdLife's global scientific research and analysis for five years due to LGT highly focusing on ESG and sustainability.



©LGT Wealth Management Trust Inc.

◆ **BLS (BirdLife Supporters Club)**

BLS, which consists of voluntary anesthesiologists, had an auction event at their meeting to fundraise for donations to BirdLife.

◆ **Sorimachi Group**

Founded in 1955, Sorimachi Group has been the leading company in accounting systems in Japan. With a penguin as its company mascot, they fundraised internally for conservation saving penguins and donated them to BirdLife.

◆ **The All Nippon Kyudo Federation**

We received donations from the All Nippon Kyudo Federation. Since bird feathers are used for Kyudo arrows, the Japanese martial art of archery, they have a keen interest in bird conservation and donate towards BirdLife's global scientific research and analysis for five years, starting in 2022.



Photo provided by The All Nippon Kyudo

◆ Support Members of Organizations and Individuals

Birdlife have supporter systems for corporations and organizations or for individuals. We also have a unique supporter system allowing members to support actions to conserve endangered species as foster parents called the RBC (Rare Bird Club).

Below is the list of corporate and individual sponsors of 2022 (in the alphabetical order).

● Corporate Members

- Alpha Foods Co., Ltd.
- Arte Salon Holdings, Inc.
- IMH Holdings Co., Ltd.
- Izumo Oyashiro
- Izumo Oyashiro Cultural Foundation
- Fushimi Inari Taisha
- Hokkaido Jingu
- Komajakko no kai
- Koma Jinja
- Masumida Shrine
- Samukawa-jinja Shrine

● Individuals Members (Friends of Birdlife)

“Friends of BirdLife” is a support system of a donation which is 5,000 JPY per unit. Donation from individual members is allocated for the projects and our operating expenses. We accept bank transfer and credit card payments. Automatic renewal system is available with a credit card.

● Other Supports

- Andreas Serenus Hoffman
- Azbil Honey Bee Corporation
- Cliff Shaw
- Daihonzan Sojiji Temple
- Fujitsu Limited
- Kaigai Fine Wine Asia (Kaigai shuhan Ltd.)
- One Step Co., Ltd
- Sphelar Power Corporation

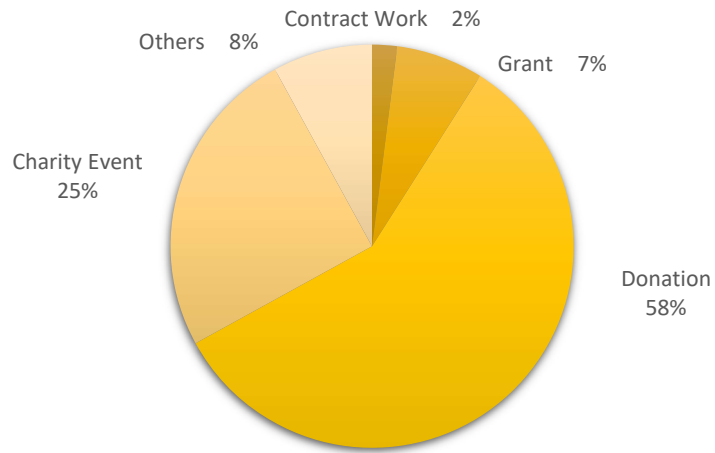
Financial Report

Financial Report for FY 2022 is as follows:

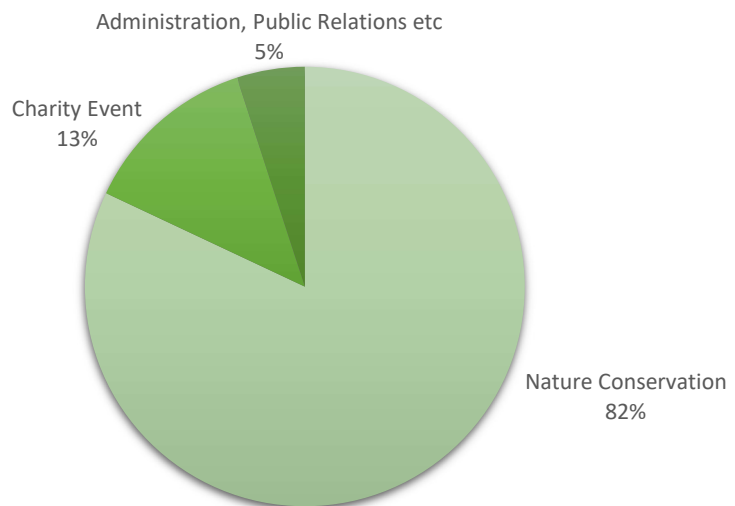
- Income : JPY 476,262,943

- Expenditure : JPY 476,262,943

➤ Income



➤ Expenditure



The forecasted figures at the end of December 2022 (prior to accounting audit)

**General Incorporated Association
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